



Social Action

NEWS LETTER

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THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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DISCIPLES CHURCHES WRITE SOLUTIONS

Disciples ministers will soon be receiving a letter from the department of social welfare inviting them and their congregations to take part in the basic discussion that will precede the writing of National Convention Resolutions in the fields of social education and action. Sets of discussion material in some 80 different areas such as: Citizenship, Religious Liberty, International Trade, Politics and Alcohol, and Disarmament will be available for local church groups wishing to discuss these matters. Churches are invited to relay their convictions to the department as a basis for a broader representation of opinion in the writing of convention resolutions.

CHURCH MEN AND WOMEN INVITED TO ATTEND WASHINGTON SEMINAR FEBRUARY 7-10

Clergymen and laywomen are being urged to send a substantial part of the 29-delegate quota of Disciples of Christ who will attend the Churchmen's Washington Seminar, February 7-10, 1956. Disciples church leaders will be among the 300 Protestants attending the four-day "Your Government and You" seminar sponsored by the National Council of Churches.

Again this year delegates will meet and discuss vital issues with Congressional leaders and top civilian and military officials. Quotas for the seminar must be filled by the first of January, 1956. *Disciples wishing to attend or desiring more information should write The Department of Social Welfare, United Christian Missionary Society, 222 S. Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.*

SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED

Regular readers of Social Action News-Letter will be favorably surprised to discover in this issue a new four-page department of "News from the Nation's Capitol." This will be a regular feature of future News-Letters and is made possible by a cooperative arrangement with the research staff of the Washington office of the Friends' Committee on National Legislation. The inclusion of these pages should make it possible for News-Letter readers to keep very well informed upon major legislative issues of concern to Christians. Additional changes in format and content of the News-Letter will be coming in the next few months. Let us hear your reactions pro and con.

WHAT DID THE CONFERENCE ACCOMPLISH?

The National Council of Churches' Conference on the Churches and Social Welfare is over. Fifteen hundred Protestant ministers, social workers and concerned laymen met for a week in Cleveland to explore almost every phase of the Protestant churches' participation in social welfare activities. What did it mean? What happened there? Where will it lead?

This was the first Protestant conference of its kind. It marks the coming of age of Protestant participation in social welfare. For the first time Protestants as a group began to discuss such issues as: adequate training and professional standards for church social work; how the churches may cooperate in getting the job done; what is the churches' relation to public welfare programs; how may the various agencies within individual brotherhoods and denominations work together more effectively. For the first time—in the three volumes produced by the conference—Protestantism got a clear and comprehensive look at what it is now doing in the field of social welfare. For the first time Protestant clergymen and Protestant social workers began on an extensive basis the long process of working out a common understanding of their proper motivation, procedures and mutual obligations in so-

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A SPECIFIC NEED, AND DEFINITE ACTION

Miss C. K. Christ of Indianapolis read a short paragraph in a church paper. Because of this chance reading, three people arrived in Indianapolis on October 30th to begin life anew. Now Jorgji (George), Niku, his wife, Kaliopi, and their son, Sotir (Sammy), have a new home, a new job and many new friends.

In November, 1954, Miss Christ came into the office of the Department of Social Welfare to see if something could be done to help her bring her cousin to the United States with his family. She was willing to pay his inland expenses and provide him a job in a restaurant.

Papers were completed and sent to Church World Service—to the Department of State—to the American Consul in Kavala, Greece—to the United States Department of Refugee Investigations—back to the Consul who issued the visa. Passage was secured. Church World Service personnel met the family when they arrived in New York and put them on the train for Indianapolis. The family was met in Indianapolis and taken to Miss Christ's home where they remained until they moved into their own apartment.

Ella L. Williams

CHURCH STATE AND SCHOOL

Protestants must think carefully but decisively at this present moment. The approaching crisis in education posed by the tremendous swelling of our school populations and the steadily increasing pressure from the Roman Catholic hierarchy for public funds to support Roman Catholic parochial schools demand from Protestants clear statements concerning both their basic principles and their proposed program of action.

The basic problem comes to the surface in a number of concrete issues. First there is the question of the use of public funds for parochial schools. Catholics (and others also) insist on the right of educating their own children in schools supervised by their ecclesiastical authorities where the effort to inculcate religious knowledge and faith is a recognized part of the regular curriculum. Since however they also teach the more traditional 3-Rs and the less traditional A.B.C.s of the "newer curriculum" and therefore in a sense "are doing the work of the tax supported public schools" they claim the right of public support for at least that phase of their educational program that duplicates the public school program.

Second there is the issue of "teaching religion in the public schools." Here, many Protestants and others, feeling that to eliminate all forms of teaching about the traditional faiths of our country is not merely to have a non-religious curriculum but rather a curriculum based upon and in a sense teaching either atheism or humanism, have insisted that we need to have some form of "teaching religion" (theistic religion) in our public schools.

There is, in the third place, the issue of

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"Federal support for education." Traditionally much of the support for public schools, particularly grade schools and high schools, has come from the local community. The underlying assumption in this has been that local groups have the right to educate their children as they see fit and that therefore since "support is likely to carry with it control" support had better be maintained at the local level. More recently, however, recognizing the wide disparity in educational opportunities for American children brought up in different parts of the country and feeling that the most important "natural resource of America is its children," many people, especially educators, have been calling upon the federal government for subsidies to equalize educational opportunities and strengthen them on an overall basis.

What are Christians—Protestant Christians—to say to these things?

First of all they will insist on freedom of conscience. They will stand against any encroachment by state, federal or local authorities on the rights of individual parents or groups to teach their children as the parents themselves believe. They will also oppose the efforts, either accidental or intentional, of one group to place itself in a favored position to impose its doctrines and disciplines upon members or children of another group.

Protestants will in the second place insist upon *equality of opportunity for all children*, regardless of race, economic background, religious tradition, or geographic distribution.

Third, and related to the matter of equality of opportunity, Protestants will insist on "*human welfare*"—that is, *giving the maximum opportunity possible with the resources at hand for the fullest development of every human being.*

Finally, because Protestants believe that individual participation in the affairs of life makes for self-reliant and responsible members of society, they will stand *for the preservation of the greatest possible degree of authority at local levels of decision.*

What then do these principles mean with regard to the three issues with which we began?

In the matter of public funds for parochial schools they mean that on the grounds of religious liberty Protestants will oppose any and all attempts of individual church bodies—Catholic, Lutheran or Disciples of Christ (if there should happen to be one) to use public funds *or facilities* for their own purposes. It is not that Protestants are *opposed* to Catholics but that they are *for* equal opportunities for all religious groups to propagate their ideas that leads them to this point.

With regard to "teaching religion in the public schools" these principles mean: (1) that any teaching of religion in school time on school property that is done should be done by public school teachers using curricular materials worked out by public school authorities, (2) that such curricular materials should be prepared on the basis of showing how and in what ways the Jewish Christian tradition (and others where this is true) have been influential in the development and sustaining of our present culture.

When one considers "federal funds for public schools" these principles mean that where local authorities are not able or willing to provide adequate and equal schooling for the people of their communities then the use of federal funds with a minimum of federal control and administered under local authorities is the order of the day. The extent to which federal control attaches to the use of federal funds, should be considered at the point of guaranteeing equality of opportunity and preserving religious liberty.

BARTON HUNTER

PRENTISS INSTITUTE RECEIVES HEIFERS

On October 26 a herd of Guernsey and Jersey heifers took up residence at Prentiss Institute in Mississippi. This herd of 244 animals has the highest percentage of pure-bred registered heifers ever collected for one shipment according to the judgment of Heifer Project, Inc.; the agency which spearheaded the project.

The cattle will be used to help Negro and white cotton farmers change over to general farming which will compensate for governmental cotton controls which slashed just enough of income so that farmers in that area now face the loss of

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With this issue we introduce a new department, "News From The Nation's Capitol." Arrangements have been made with the Washington office of the Friends' Committee on National Legislation to include similar comprehensive reports as a regular monthly feature.

THE IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES 1956

During the First Session of the 84th Congress a number of important and far-reaching pieces of legislation became law: the National Defense Education Act was extended four years; the doctors' National Health Insurance Act was extended two years; a compulsory military reserve bill which greatly increases the military obligation of young men was passed; the reciprocal trade act was extended for three years; United Nations participation in the International Atomic Energy Corporation was authorized; disposition of agricultural surpluses abroad was increased; public housing construction was authorized; and a special Foreign Relations Subcommittee was created to study the problems of disarmament; and a Commission on Government Security was created to study the government security program.

Great many old and new issues remain under consideration by the Second Session of the 84th Congress; among these are the following:

Disarmament. Senators and Congressmen should begin to think in terms of disarmament, the promise which it holds, the complicated problems involved, and its far-reaching effects on almost all phases of our nation. The new special Senate Subcommittee on Disarmament is composed of Senators Humphrey of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Sparkman of Alabama, Land of California, Barkley of Kentucky, Hickenlooper of Iowa, Byrd of Virginia, Bridges of New Hampshire, Wharton of Missouri, Bricker of Ohio, Claiborne of Rhode Island, and Saltonstall of Massachusetts.

Refugees. At this time it appears there is a very real danger that many of the 100,000 refugees, orphans, escapees, and others permitted to enter the country under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 will not arrive by the time the Act expires on November 31, 1956. On November 4 only 4 visas had been issued and 46,800 persons actually admitted under the refugee program. Liberalization of the provisions of the Act or extension of the expiration date appear warranted. S. 2113 re-

ported by the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Refugees and Escapees liberalizes some of the provisions of the Act.

● **School Construction.** H.R. 7535, which would help meet the pressing need for school construction, has cleared the House Education and Labor Committee and is awaiting consideration by the House Rules Committee. In the Senate, school construction bills are still pending in the Labor and Public Welfare Committee. This legislation faces two obstacles: the opposition of those opposed to federal aid to education, and the threat of the addition of a segregation amendment, which might kill the whole program.

● **Agricultural Surpluses.** Senator Ellender of Louisiana, chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, after listening to farmers throughout the country testify before his traveling committee, indicated on November 14 that legislation was needed to provide for 1) surplus disposal, 2) acreage reduction, 3) aid for small farmers, and 4) price support.

● **Civil Liberties.** Major changes in the government security program can and should be made immediately. A number of obvious abuses can be corrected without waiting for the new Commission on Government Security to make its report by December 31, 1956. The House Judiciary Subcommittee on wire tapping has reported H.R. 4513 which, if enacted, would provide more adequate control of wire tapping than now exists, but does not ban it.

● **Civil Rights.** Ninety-five bills pertaining to civil rights were introduced in the First Session, and only one of them has been reported out of committee.

● **Indians.** S. 51, approved by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, would give Indians a better opportunity to help determine policies affecting them. In addition, there is great need for an adequate over-all Indian health program, as

was clearly indicated in the reports of both the House and Senate Appropriations Committee in 1955.

● **Public Housing.** Congress last year, after a bitter fight, authorized construction of 45,000 new public housing units for the coming year. Since the legislation provided only for a one-year program, new authorization will be needed if the program is to continue. The National Housing Conference believes that at least 200,000 new public housing units per year are necessary for the next three years.

● **Natural Gas.** H.R. 6645, which would exempt independent natural gas producers from federal price control and, its opponents claim, increase costs to the consumer, narrowly passed the House 209 to 203 last session. The bill is expected to come to the floor of the Senate early next session.

● **Social Security.** The House approved H.R. 7225 which liberalizes social security benefits by lowering the age for women to receive benefits to 62, and including those not now covered. The Senate Finance Committee is expected to hold hearings on the bill shortly after Congress reconvenes.

PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER MILITARY LEGISLATION

On August 9, President Eisenhower signed into law the pilot UMT-Compulsory Reserve Bill, stating that the bill contained several deficiencies, and that—

"I am instructing the Secretary of Defense . . . to prepare for presentation to the next session of the Congress amendments necessary to correct the deficiencies in this legislation."

The three deficiencies noted by the President were: 1) No power to draft youths into the six months active training, 7½ years Ready Reserve Program. Such authority would provide one of the most essential elements of a full UMT program. 2) No authority to require National Guardsmen to take the six months train-

ing. This authority was deleted in Committee to avoid Congressman Powell's anti-segregation amendment. 3) Equal pay for Reservists presently receiving \$50 per month and National Guardsmen now receiving a minimum of \$78 a month.

The pilot UMT program authorized by the law if off to a slow start. Reports indicate the Army expected to begin training 5,000 men on October 1 in five camps. Only 1,167 arrived, however, and 666 of that number were National Guardsmen required to train part time until their 28th birthday. The compulsory reserve aspects of the law will not be felt for two years when those who entered the service after the bill was signed leave active duty and are required to participate in the Ready Reserve.

Prospects for further legislation in the coming session are unclear at this time. Among the factors which will determine whether new bills will be pressed are: the President's desire that the law be strengthened, the fact that it may be felt the 6 months-7½ year volunteer program has not been in operation long enough to indicate whether changes should be made, and the coming elections in November.

FOREIGN AID

A year ago there was talk of a "bold new program" of economic aid. By the time this idea was presented to Congress, budget-balancing and cold war demands had engulfed economic aid in the military program; thus of the three and a half billion dollars requested, only 812.5 million were for non-military economic aid. By the time the authorization emerged from Congress, these totals had been reduced, respectively, to under three billion dollars, and 681.9 million.

Now even some of the money appropriated by Congress is being withheld. According to a recent report, the Administration has decided to hold back as much as 20% of this year's economic and technical assistance funds. Ostensibly, the purpose is to create a reserve fund, but since the fund, if unused, is slated to be returned to the Treasury, it may be suspected that this is a move to balance the budget at the expense of foreign aid.

Another sign of the Administration's lack of faith in non-military aid programs was the announcement on November 7 that the United States would refuse to contribute to SUNFED (Special UN

Fund for Economic Development) for the coming year. The reason given was that "neither financial resources nor the force of public opinion was yet available for such an undertaking."

At this moment, the foreign aid budget for the coming year is being prepared and the future United States policy being shaped. Two factors can be discerned: 1) a strong desire to balance the budget; 2) a strong inclination to treat economic aid as an arm of the military program, justifying it in military terms rather than basing it on a real concern for the welfare of people in less technologically developed countries. The International Cooperation Administration recommendations for foreign aid shortly will go to Rowland R. Hughes, Director, Bureau of the Budget, who is much concerned with budget-balancing. Your letters to him, to Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey, and to the President would be effective at this time.

Increased Contacts with People from Other Countries

Congress will have before it again in 1956 the annual appropriation for the International Educational Exchange Program. Last year \$22 million was requested. Great opposition was voiced by influential House members over even the \$18 million which was finally appropriated and there are no hopeful signs that the situation will not be repeated this year. Appropriations must also be approved if the program for cultural interchange is to continue. Congress may also be asked to delete the McCarran-Walter Act requirement that foreign visitors be finger printed. The provision has caused particular resentment among visitors.

Recent events indicate that the friendship and goodwill engendered by the President at the Geneva Conference are not being implemented here in Washington. The State Department on November 15 cancelled a visa for Archbishop Boris of the Russian Orthodox Church to come to the United States. The State Department on November 10 said it was delaying for months visas for a group of Russian hybrid seed experts who wished to visit this country, and agreed to reconsider the matter only after mid-west seed representatives charged the action jeopardized millions of dollars worth of business. The State Department opposed a visit of the

Negro operetta "Porgy and Bess" to Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev in December and January as "politically premature." The play is expected to go to Russia, however, despite the protest. *The Washington Post and Times Herald* stated on November 15 "the official treatment here of the seven Soviet journalists who departed yesterday left a good deal to be desired. . . . These visitors did not see one high official of the United States Government; and their reception on Capitol Hill, partly through a misunderstanding, was considerably less than cordial."

On November 9 the Soviet Union Minister of Higher Education stated his country favored a large scale expansion of international student exchanges and wished to work out exchange agreements with other countries including the United States. If you have faith in our way of life and believe it should be shared with others and that we should be given an opportunity to meet people from totalitarian countries, you may wish to write to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles asking that this offer be accepted immediately and that the State Department's narrow and restrictive policy be abandoned.

Increase International Trade Through GATT-OTC

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was concluded at Geneva in 1947 and at the present time the United States and 33 other nations are parties to the Agreement. The aim of GATT is to reduce the trade barriers between nations and stabilize international trade. Negotiations between the parties since the Agreement was entered into have resulted in establishing some 58,000 tariff rates affecting well over half of the total world trade.

The Organization for Trade Co-operation (OTC) grew out of seven years' experience with GATT during which it was realized that a continuous mechanism for the administration of trade rules and discussion of mutual trade problems was essential. OTC will be this mechanism. It will not conduct trade negotiations; this will be done by the countries which choose to participate in the trade negotiations. President Eisenhower has said the reasons for United States participation in OTC are "overwhelming."

The legislative issue before Congress, in

form of H.R. 5550, is whether the United States should participate in OTC. Membership in GATT is not directly involved, but since OTC is designed to implement the terms of GATT, the merits of the General Agreement will be very much discussed. H.R. 5550 is now pending before the House Ways and Means Committee where Committee Chairman Jere Cooper of Tennessee has promised full hearings very early in the session. Opposition to the measure appears to be forming not only among traditionally protectionist groups but also among certain supporters of the Bricker Amendment who see this as an issue involving the general advisability of executive agreements.

U. S. IMMIGRATION POLICY

The inscription on the Statue of Liberty no longer states American immigration policy as it once did. Today our immigration policy is embodied in the lengthy and complicated Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, popularly called the McCarran-Walter Act, which has aroused widespread controversy.

The Past

The changing story of immigration policy in the United States has been one, first of no restrictions at all, then a period of growing restrictions, finally culminating in the national origins quota system.

There were no restrictions until the latter part of the 19th Century when provisions discriminatory against Chinese and others were inserted in the law. Health, moral and educational requirements also were added.

The growing restrictive trend culminated in the enactment into law in 1924 of the "national origins quota system" which creates an immigration quota for each country based upon the proportion which that nationality represented in the United States population in 1920. The aim of the legislation was patently to prevent immigration in substantial amounts from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia.

McCarran-Walter Act

The McCarran-Walter Act, passed in 1952 over President Truman's veto, carries over the national origin quota system from 1924 almost without change, its passage being strongly supported by many congressmen and Senators who feared that subversive influences would enter the country.

Supporters of the Act can point to certain beneficial results: a much needed codification of immigration was accomplished, minimum quotas of 100 each were assigned to certain Asian and African countries which had had none at all before, the bar against citizenship for Japanese and other Asian aliens was removed, and the right to naturalization of conscientious objectors on religious scruples was confirmed. But its many discriminatory and unfair provisions prompted President Truman to say in his veto message: "The price is too high and, in good conscience, I cannot agree to pay it."

Provisions of the Present Law

The McCarran-Walter Act contains our basic immigration policy.

Quota immigrants are those persons arriving in this country under one of the quotas in the McCarran-Walter Act.

The Act also permits *non-quota immigrants* whose entry is not governed by the quota system. Thus there are no quotas or numerical restrictions on wives, husbands and children of United States citizens, ministers of religion and others, nor are there any restrictions on natives of Western Hemisphere countries excepting those of Oriental origin.

Immigrants also arrive in this country under *special acts* of Congress made necessary because the McCarran-Walter Act is not sufficiently flexible. Thus, the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, still in operation, is emergency legislation to admit 214,000 refugees, escapees, and orphans without regard to the quota system. The Displaced Persons Act, passed in 1948, waived quota restrictions to permit 400,000 persons to enter the country, but the DP Act did require that the number admitted be charged against future quotas at the rate of 50% per year. (For example, the Greek quota is mortgaged to the year 2018; the Latvian, to 2274.) Other special emergency laws are the War Brides Act and Senator McCarran's special shepherd law.

In addition, *private bills* for the benefit of thousands of persons are introduced in each Congress and a number of them pass. In the 84th Congress 3,421 bills have been introduced to date.

A great many *temporary visitors* whose conditions of entry are governed by the McCarran-Walter Act also enter the country each year. In the year ending June 30,

1955, 620,946 non-immigrants, including visitors for business and pleasure, students, persons in transit and representatives of foreign countries entered the United States.

National Origins Quota System—The Heart of the Matter

At the center of the controversy over the McCarran-Walter Act is the national origins quota system. The system was first adopted in 1924 when our country was turning away from its international responsibilities and was fearful of foreign influences. The Ku Klux Klan was in the ascendancy and racial and religious prejudices were high, aided in part by theories of Nordic white supremacy. The legislative history shows that in fact the national origins system was designed and intended to discriminate on the basis of race, nationality and religion. When the 1924 Act became effective it cut back sharply the flow of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia.

In operation, the national origins system favors the admission of persons from Northern and Western European countries as against persons from other parts of the world. Thus the 154,657 quota immigrants admissible annually are divided as follows: Northern and Western European countries 126,131—81.6%; Southern and Eastern European countries 23,536—15.7%. Asian countries 2,990—1.9%, African and Oceania countries 2,000—1.3%. Each country has available an annual quota within this framework, for example, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 65,361; Germany, 25,814; Italy, 5,645; U.S.S.R., 2,697; Switzerland, 1,698; Japan, 185; Philippines, 100.

The table above indicates plainly that the number of quota immigrants actually coming to the United States is much less than the annual quota of 154,657. This is so because some countries such as Great Britain and Northern Ireland do not use up their quotas while others are greatly oversubscribed. Most of the countries, especially in the Southern and Eastern European and Asian areas, have long waiting lists. The unused quotas cannot be transferred from one country to another except in rare circumstances involving preservation of the family unit. Nor can unused quotas be transferred from one year to another.

Alternatives to Discrimination

There have been many proposals to amend the present immigration law to make it less discriminatory and establish a desirable level of immigration.

One of the major proposals is that the national origins system be abolished and a flexible allocation within a maximum quota be substituted. The President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization appointed in 1952 recommends such a system which it calls a "unified quota system," with a maximum annual quota of one-sixth of 1% of the population of the United States as determined by the last decennial census. Under the 1950 census, quota immigration would be open to 251,1622 immigrants annually instead of the present 154,657. Four preference groups were suggested to come ahead of general immigration: "the right of asylum," "the reunion of families," "needs in the United States," "special needs in the free world." Senator Lehman's bill introduced in the 83rd Congress as S. 2585 and reintroduced in the 84th Congress as S. 1206 incorporates the unified quota system as well as many other recommendations by the President's Commission.

Still a further view is that there should be no maximum quota or numerical limitation. Under such a system the qualitative standards would be the sole test for determining eligibility. Qualitative standards would include health requirements, morality standards and tests of economic sufficiency designed to prevent the immigrant from becoming a public charge, similar to those required in our present laws.

Other Injustices in our Immigration Law

There are a number of areas in which the McCarran-Walter Act does not appear to meet the traditional standards of American fairness and justice. Here are a few examples:

Consular officers abroad by express provision of the McCarran-Walter Acts have complete and unreviewable authority to grant or deny visas. This complete delegation of authority to a single individual with no power of review is almost unique in American law.

If an immigrant does receive a visa from a State Department consular officer abroad, he may, after arriving in the United States, still be denied admission by an Immigration and Naturalization Service officer who applies the same law.

Aliens after they have lived here for many years and have lost all contacts with their former country—from whence they may have come when they were babes in arms—can be deported for acts committed many years before involving no wrongdoing on their part.

Even after naturalization an immigrant is a "second class citizen" since he may be denaturalized for conduct occurring after naturalization.

Why Should We Care?

A sound immigration policy is a national asset. In the economic area there is a substantial and growing opinion that a liberal immigration policy is economically sound. One fact, often overlooked, is that the immigrant not only becomes a consumer of the goods of industry, but also in many cases because of his industry and ingenuity creates new jobs for American workmen.

Our immigration policy is of course an integral part of our foreign policy since it directly affects those in other lands. If that policy is not enlightened, humane, fair and non-discriminatory our foreign policy suffers and we show to the people of other countries by acts which they themselves can verify the wide gulf between our deeds and our words of equality and justice.

Moreover a restrictive immigration policy means a withdrawal or refusal to participate in the solution of some of the world's pressing population and economic problems which have been a major contributing factor in bringing on the wars of recent years. It also means we are building up national barriers and antagonisms and depriving many individuals of the opportunity to move about freely in an effort to develop their individual talents fully.

Legislative Picture

Although over 60 bills were introduced in the First Session of the 84th Congress to modify our immigration laws, no legislation was passed. The Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration will hold hearings late in November and early in December in Washington on revision of the Act. Members of the Senate Subcommittee are: Senators Kilgore of W. Va., chairman; Hennings of Mo., Johnston of S. C., Eastland of Miss., Watkins of Utah, Dirksen of Ill., and Butler of Md. Mem-

bers of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on immigration are: Congressman Walter of Pa., chairman; Feighan of Ohio, Chelf of Ky., Thompson of Mich., and Hyde of Md.

An analysis of the vote following President Truman's veto of the Act shows that 213 of the 278 House members who voted to override President Truman, and 46 of the 56 Senators who voted to override him, still hold seats in the 84th Congress. Of the seven members of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration only two members—Senator Kilgore of West Virginia, chairman, and Senator Hennings of Missouri—voted to uphold President Truman's veto. Of the five House members, one—Michael A. Feighan of Ohio—voted to uphold the veto; three others voted to override it; and one was elected after the passage of the Act.

What the Concerned Citizen Can Do

The legislative picture indicates that substantial changes in our immigration laws cannot be achieved until there is a considerable shift in public opinion which can reach Senators and Congressmen. The concerned citizen who wishes to be effective in this area can:

(1) Obtain the facts concerning our immigration policy. One of the best sources is the Report of the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, "Whom We Shall Welcome" (75c from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.).

(2) Inform his representatives in Congress of his opinion on revision of the McCarran-Walter Act, especially if his representatives have entered Congress since its enactment in 1952.

(3) Stimulate public interest in our immigration laws through letters to newspapers, action in the various civic, fraternal, or professional groups to which most people belong.

(4) Join with like-minded individuals who are also interested in changing the McCarran-Walter Act. One such organization is the National Committee on Immigration and Citizenship, 40 East 40th Street, New York 16, New York. The Committee includes leaders in church, labor, educational, civic, and related organizations.

MAKE IT A SUMMER SERVICE

1956 volunteer service program for young people will include work camps, internships and ministry to agricultural migrants.

Work Camps . . .

Work Camp Committee is planning camps—two stateside and two foreign. Places and dates for the stateside are: *Los Angeles* (a cooperative effort between All Peoples Christian Church and Avalon Community Center), June 25-August 20; *Flanner House*, Indianapolis, July 2-August 27. Each camp will accommodate 15 to 20 campers. There will be at least one foreign student in each of these camps. The fee for Los Angeles is \$20.00 plus travel and for Flanner House is \$90.00 plus travel.

The two foreign camps are still tentative. For specific information on the 1956 summer work camps.

Adult Directors' Training Camp will be conducted at Flanner House in Indianapolis, June 11-20. Flanner House has enlarged its facilities for work camps. Accommodations can be arranged for up to 35 adults who desire this training experience. States looking toward stateside work camps will want to send leaders to this camp. Local church members of student groups will find this experience valuable in promoting summer planning week-end work camps. The fee is \$25.00.

Internships . . .

Plans for summer internships are not complete. However, at present we are able to announce opportunities at Flanner for group worker with teen-age boys, girls, a nursery school teacher, a nutritionist, a clerical person, one with mechanical skills, one with elementary carpentering, a laboratory technician and a person trained in health education. The normal term of service is from 8 to 10 weeks; dates for beginning and ending of period will be arranged with the individuals who are accepted.

Avalon Community Center in Los Angeles a 3 month internship is available for a young person who can do some clerical work and who will be able to assume responsibility after a few weeks of orientation at the Center and its community.

About Ministry to Migrants . . .

The summer staffs serving agricultural migrants in the Central and Western Regions will need young people who can lead worship, teach in Vacation Schools, direct recreation both for youth and adults, who have some knowledge of crafts and are able to administer first aid. Ability to speak and understand Spanish is desirable but not required.

The term of service in the Central Region begins with a training conference the middle of June and continues for approximately 10 weeks. In the Western Region the term of service is six weeks plus one week of orientation prior to going to field assignments and two days of evaluation at the end of the period.

For Additional Information

Write to the Department of Social Welfare, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana, for further information on the opportunities described here and for application blanks.

RUTH E. MILNER

WHAT DID THE CONFERENCE (Continued from Page 1)

cial welfare. In short, it was a beginning—long overdue—of cooperation between the various religious and social welfare agency groups.

No brief report can begin to describe the issues and the findings of the conference. For such a summary the reader is referred to the author's article in the January issue of *WORLD CALL*. Certain general observations are in order. First, the conference was in no mood to deal merely with generalities. Both the conference "Message" and the reports of the 20 study groups underscored the agreement of the delegates that the church must deal honestly and boldly with such issues as racial discrimination, public aid to education, health insurance and just treatment of Indian Americans. Still another of the agreements of the delegates seemed to be that the churches' first responsibility in the field of social welfare was to serve as a "conscience" for society. Opinions varied as to the extent to which churches should participate directly in social welfare. All agreed that the church should criticize present arrangements and procedures in society both positively and negatively.

LEWIS H. DEER

THE STATES AND THEIR OLDER CITIZENS

Older persons comprise a large and increasing proportion of our population. Economic and social changes that have taken place in America, moreover, have altered the position of the aged, posing problems for all state and local governments and for many private agencies.

In the light of these facts and coupled with the concern that our older citizens are entitled, in their advancing years, both to healthful living and to opportunities for useful and satisfying activity, the Governor's Conference at its Forty-sixth Annual Meeting in July, 1954, requested the Council of State Governments to conduct a study which would provide a basis for intelligent planning of adequate care, treatment and rehabilitation facilities to cope with the needs of the foreseeable future.

For one year the Council worked on the study. It had as consultant of the study Ernest W. Burgess of the University of Chicago. It had the benefit of the advice and counsel of numerous persons, representing the views of public and private agencies. Information concerning existing state programs was gathered through the offices of the Governors and many state agencies. The study was submitted to the Governors' Conference in August of this year.

The report now has been published and is available to the public for \$3.00. It may be secured from the Council of State Governments, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37.

Part One deals with the *Origins, Magnitude and Nature of the Problems*; Part Two describes *Action in the States* which is a summary of what public and private efforts are doing about the situation; Part Three entitled *Coping With the Problem* sets forth some plans for dealing with the problems.

The volume with its documented information and suggestions for future plans and programs is of value to individuals and agencies concerned with the field of geriatrics.

RUTH E. MILNER



When Your Committee Meets-

The Committee on Christian Action and Community Service in your church may find suggestions and help from the following list of events, projects and resources:

DATES TO PLAN FOR

January 15-21

Church and Economic Life Observance.

For your program we suggest:

● *Living Right at Our Work*—a series of five filmstrips, each with discussion guide. The strips provide discussion on such ethical on-the-job considerations as: *Choice, Attitude, Counsel, Outlook and Leadership*. These filmstrips will provide you a fresh, stimulating series of five sessions. Rental on each is \$2.50.

● *Ethics In A Business Society*, by Cater and Childs, 35c, along with the five session study guide "The Camel and The Needle's Eye." 30c. This book is the summarization of the National Council's three year study of the relevance of Christian principles to economic life. The guide is unusually helpful in suggesting group procedures as well as use of the material in the book.

February 7-10

Churchmen's Washington Seminar. (See page 1.)

February 12

Race Relations Sunday.

This Sunday can be central to a month's emphasis on Brotherhood. This is the occasion to examine the pattern and practices of your congregation in regard to racial groups. It is also another occasion to plan for activities and projects which increase understanding and brotherhood across racial lines. Have you planned for these:

1. Distribution to the membership of the Annual Race Relations Sunday Message (sent to each minister).
2. An exchange of speaker, elders, choir with a congregation of another race?
3. A visit to a church of another race?
4. An invitation to the congregation to bring friends of other races to the church service or fellowship program?

February 19-26

Week of Compassion.

The materials explaining this special offering carry reports of our brotherhood support of rehabilitation projects across the world. It also reports on refugee resettlement.

Has your church decided to resettle a refugee family? Write to Miss Ella Williams, Department of Social Welfare, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana, to get full information on the procedure.

● *Legislative Action*—Congress reconvenes January 3, 1956.

Your committee along with others in the congregation could study the issues involved in (1) The McCarran-Walter Act, (2) The student exchange program, (3) Indian-American affairs, (4) Non-military foreign aid, (5) The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. In the section "News From the Nation's Capitol" in this issue there are details on legislation. Now is the time to write your Congressman or Senator, the President or appropriate Cabinet officer your opinions.

RESOURCES

"The Churches Repent"—*Harper's Magazine*, October, 1955. This is a report of progress in desegregating the churches.

"My Third U.N. Seminar"—Will Sessions, minister of Independence Boulevard Church, Kansas City, reports on his recent seminar experience. \$1.00. Order from the Independence Blvd. Christian Church, Kansas City, Missouri.

Two Volumes prepared for the National Conference on The Churches and Social

Welfare. Volume I, *The Activating Concern Historical and Theological Bases*; Volume II, *The Changing Scene Current Trends and Issues* (Price—\$3.75 each). Volume III, *The Emerging Perspective*, to be published about March 15, 1956, will give Findings of the Conference. These are available from National Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Citizens' Guide to Desegregation—Hill and Greenberg, Beacon Press, \$1.00.

This is a brief paper-back, yet it is a comprehensive review of the social and legal changes in America from Reconstruction to the present. Includes text of Supreme Court's decisions and a table of legal cases.

PRENTISS INSTITUTE

(Continued from page 2)

their small farms. Prentiss Institute will give direction, provide bulls and maintain a foundation herd of ten heifers. The remaining animals will be given to carefully selected farmers on the basis of need and ability to provide adequate care. Heifer Project, Inc., indicates that 17 more heifers are needed to complete the project for the present. Any person interested in providing an animal or purchasing one may write the Department of Social Welfare.

A complete story of this project appeared in the October issue of News-Letter.

RUTH E. MILNER

Social Action
NEWS LETTER

Second-class mail privileges authorized at Indianapolis, Indiana.